



Transactional Records Access Clearinghouse  
Syracuse University

May 11, 2011

Catrina Pavlik-Keenan, FOIA Director  
U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement  
800 North Capitol St., NW  
5th Floor, Suite 585  
Washington, DC 20536

Re: FOIA request for previously released records

Dear FOIA Director Pavlik-Keenan:

Under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act we are requesting copies of the request letter, final response letter, and the actual records released in the following FOIA cases:

Case Number	Recv'd in FOIA
1793	11/10/2010
2101	11/17/2010
2244	11/23/2010
6168	03/03/2011
6263	03/04/2011


We request that we be classified as an educational requestor and as a representative of the news media under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act. The Transactional Records Access Clearinghouse (TRAC) is a research data center at Syracuse University where it is a joint center of the Martin J. Whitman School of Management and the S. I. Newhouse School of Public Communications. Under the direction of its co-directors, Professors Long and Burnham, TRAC carries out an active program of scholarly research. Further, as its name implies, TRAC as part of its educational and service mission also serves as a clearinghouse and regularly responds to inquiries from the press, scholars, public interest groups, and other members of the public on where to find government information and the specific types of information available. One of our specialties is computerized federal databases maintained by agencies to record day-by-day activities required for managing the agency and reporting on its performance to various oversight bodies. TRAC actively seeks to promote public understanding of both the operation of the federal government's immigration enforcement programs as well as policies promoting transparency and open government practices. We do this through the gathering and dissemination of information on agency day-to-day activities. At TRAC, we actively gather information of interest to the public, transform this information utilizing our editorial and research expertise into various works -- including computerized knowledge bases and reports -- and make these works available to the public. For example, recent TRAC reports on immigration issues can be viewed at: <http://trac.syr.edu/immigration/reports/> and TRAC's immigration data access tools and applications can be found at: <http://trac.syr.edu/immigration/tools/>.

No fees were charged to the original requestors. In the unlikely event you do decide to impose a copying charge, we also request a full waiver of fees. Disclosure of the requested information is in the public interest since they provide key data on the detention and removal of aliens as well as on activities and issues deemed of such importance that the White House receives a regular update. Thus, access to this basic information is fundamental to the public's ability to become informed about these vital government activities. The requested records will be used as part of our educational and public service activities to help individuals and organizations find the information they need concerning agency policies and practices. It will also be used to inform TRAC's own research on these topics. The results from our research should help address these critical gaps in knowledge and thereby contribute significantly to public understanding of the operations and activities of the government. Research results, as has been the case for our previous studies, will be made publicly available and widely distributed through their publication on our web site (<http://trac.syr.edu/immigration>). We have previously provided detailed information to support earlier classification and fee waiver requests, and we incorporate by reference in this request's justification all of the details contained in the August 1, 2006 letter sent on our behalf by our attorneys at Covington & Burling, LLP. Please let us know if you would like us to furnish an additional copy of this letter for your files.

Finally, we call your attention to the strict time limits set for furnishing requested records under 5 U.S.C. 552. We would very much appreciate your prompt action and response on this request.

Should you have any questions, or if we can be of any assistance, please feel free to contact us. You can reach Long at (315) 443-3563 or by email at [suelong@syr.edu](mailto:suelong@syr.edu). Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Susan B. Long". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Susan" being the most prominent.

CO-DIRECTOR, TRAC  
Associate Professor  
Martin J. Whitman School of Management  
Syracuse University

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David Burnham". The signature is written in a cursive style, with the first name "David" being the most prominent.

David Burnham  
Co-Director, TRAC and  
Associate Research Professor  
S.I. Newhouse School of Public Communications  
Syracuse University